

(b) if so, by when the institute will be formed and what are its main functions?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal is under preparation for establishment of such an institute. The institute to be established through public private partnership including international collaboration is proposed to have the mandate to carry out focused research on technologies whose application will lead to cleaner environment. The institute, if approved, will draw up its programme keeping in view the challenges faced by all parts of the country and all sectors of the Industry.

**Constitutional status for National Commission for Safai
Karamcharis**

†3002. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has got constitutional status;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of reports submitted to Government by the Commission so far; and

(d) the details of action taken by Government on the reports of the Commission so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[3 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

has been continued in terms of Government of India resolution dated 09.09.2004. However, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes enjoys a constitutional status.

(c) and (d) The NCSK has so far submitted six reports. Four reports have already been laid on the table of both Houses with Action Taken Memoranda.

Caste -based discrimination at AIIMS

3003. KUMARI NIRMALADESHPANDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister is aware of the caste- based discrimination and harassment of students and doctors at AIIMS;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government ;

(c) whether the officials responsible have been identified and punished;

(d) whether the Director of the Institute is a party to such discrimination; and

(e) if so, the action contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Sukha Deo Thorat, Chairman University Grants Commission to look into the complaints from Members of Parliament, media reports and other representations on the alleged harassment to SC/ST students in All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Grants-in-aid for NGOs/voluntary organisations

3004. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants-in-aid released to NGOs/voluntary organisations in Uttar Pradesh under various programmes/schemes for SCs, STs, OBCs and physically challenged categories during the last two years;